

# WEST NEWBURY GARDEN CLUB

October 7<sup>th</sup> 6:45pm Annex Building Meeting/Workshop



Our October speaker will lead participants in a hands-on decoration of succulent-filled pumpkins. Members who would like to participate must have pre-registered with a \$22 materials fee, though all are welcome to watch. For those of you who missed the September meeting, please remember to bring your \$30 annual membership dues (cash or check preferred, but credit cards will be accepted), and pick up your 2021-2022 Year Book. **Using an abundance of caution, the Board requests that you wear a mask and be fully vaccinated for our face-to-face meetings.**

## September Meeting – Together AT LAST

Face masks couldn't hide the beaming smiles of forty-two members coming together for our September 2<sup>nd</sup> in-person gathering held after several months of zoomed meetings. New president, Lori Boudrow, offered a warm welcome to all, and thanks to out-going president, Kathy Mandeville. (Kathy has served on the WNGC board since 2014 and has been president for the past five years.) Members enjoyed refreshments and decorations provided by the hospitality committee including Carrie Hometh, Nancy Pau, Karen Dolliber, Hannah Page-Koch, Andrea Caswell and Kathy Mandeville. Member Jane Jeffers spoke about preparing for the May Plant Sale and techniques for dividing and overwintering plants.



Kathy Mandeville and Lori Boudrow  
(Photo courtesy of Dianne Faulkner)

### WNGC YEAR BOOK 2021-22

Many thanks to Editor, Lynn Boyd. Email any corrections to Lynn at [lynnboyd02@gmail.com](mailto:lynnboyd02@gmail.com)

## Members Stepping Up

A great thanks to two members taking on two new roles. **Dianne Faulkner** has agreed to become the Club's first Garden Committees Overseer. She will coordinate everyone's efforts on our town gardens. **Tracy Peter** has offered to review news from the [Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts](#) and call to the President's attention all information that would be of particular interest to members.

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## Board Meeting Notes by Karen Clagett

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- **Conserving Natural Resources**

At the prompting of Board member Anne Felix-Sanchez, the club will be exploring ways that we can reduce waste and use more recyclable products at our meetings.

- **Communications Survey Results** At the September meeting, members were asked for their opinions on the club's newsletter, website and email communications, and did so with interest and engagement. The Board was pleased to find that most members were happy with its outreach efforts. Members read the newsletter and pay attention to emails. The website is less used, and the Board believes it best serves new and prospective members and specific tasks such as providing scholarship information and applications. The website committee is making good progress narrowing down potential site hosts, and has determined what new requirements, such as email capability, the site should have.

- **WNGC Scholarship 2022 Increased**

The Board voted to offer two \$3,000 scholarships in the coming year as a result of the tremendous success of the May Plant Sale. Scholarship Committee Chair and Board member, Karen Clagett commented "We were blessed with excellent candidates last year, and the scholarship committee found it difficult to limit itself to one choice, necessary due to no plant sale the previous year. Board members should be proud that they will be helping two deserving students this coming year." Please help get the word out about scholarships; if you know a student interested in the environment and planning to study in a field related to it, encourage that student to apply. Eligibility information is on the club's website and deadlines will be updated.

### **WNGC Privacy Statement**

We respect the privacy of our members. Membership information in the Yearbook and/or in the Newsletter is for WNGC use only. **Member Contact information** is not to be released or used except within and for WNGC communication, and never for commercial purposes.

**WNGC is a member of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.** Read their quarterly newsletter Mayflower for articles, announcements, events and workshops.

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*Contact us:*

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**Facebook:** [West Newbury Garden Club](#)

Note: WNGC Board meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Board members' homes. Please contact Lori Boudrow if you wish to attend.

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## Stay Connected to WNGC

Please remember to notify Linda Schaeffer, Membership Chair, when you change your mailing address, email address, and/or phone number. [linda-schaeffer@verizon.net](mailto:linda-schaeffer@verizon.net)

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## Welcome New Members

Mary and David Moody

Joan Reynolds



September Registration Table

Overwintering Plants – Jane Jeffers



## Sad News

[Sandi Preble](#) WNGC member passed away on August 29<sup>th</sup> at the age of 83. Sandi was a dedicated member for 53 years, having served on the Board as well as being an active member of the Ferry Lane Park Garden Committee. We will miss her warm smile and sage advice.



Ferry Lane Park Garden – July 2021

Our sincere condolences go to member **Claudia Woods-Estin**, whose son, [Chauncey Depew Steele](#), passed away on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Our thoughts are with you.

## Notes From a Novice Gardener by Andrea Caswell

September wields a powerful combination of endings and beginnings. It reminds us that summer is dwindling and will in fact disappear, yet it includes a batch of warm days to create a cushion between us and the impending gloom. This month, I've enjoyed the end-of-summer blooms from earlier plantings, including from a blue hydrangea that I named "Cranky." But I know I can't sit back and enjoy the fruits of my prior labor for much longer. It's clear that September is crunch time in the garden.

About a week ago, after suiting up in thick canvas pants and a pair of elbow-length padded gloves that a falconer might envy, I went after the brambles. I had grand plans to get them under control (the naiveté!). A few hours later, it was obvious that the brambles would win: their spiny, curling tendrils seemed to reach anywhere and everywhere they wanted to, taking no notice of my determination. Still, I kept disentangling and chopping. While I was at it, I cut back the raspberry bushes too—pretty much down to the ground—but I assume they'll grow right back, if the current rate of bramble proliferation holds.



For these Sisyphean tasks, like weeding and crabgrass hunting, or my indoor activity of writing a novel, I have a motto: *Progress never counts as failure*. It's true, the brambles are having a hey-day out there; they've probably grown an inch in the time it took me to write about them. But it's the progress, the true effort, and the time-on-task that offer me a sense of satisfaction. A Chinese proverb reminds us that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. It means that what we do matters. It means we can celebrate every step along the way.



**West Newbury Garden Club**

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